

AWM4
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War**

Medical, Dental & Nursing

Item number: 26/77/10

Title: 2nd Australian Sanitary Section

January 1917



AWM4-26/77/10

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

957

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	VOLUME XII	Remarks and references to Appendices
VIGNACOURT	1.1.17.		<p>Introduced a skeleton weekly report for the use & instruction of sanitary section N.C.O.'s or men stationed in villages, camps or billeting areas. The report which is to be sent in weekly by the N.C.O. or man in charge of a sanitary area requires information under the following headings.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Standard latrines & other means of disposal of faeces. Incinerators & other means of disposal of refuse Disposal of stable refuse Water supplies. Water points. Wells. Underground tanks. Water tests & regularity of chlorination. Baths & ablution places. Water supply. Drainage etc. General sanitation of villages. Camps. Bilets. Trenches. etc. Sanitation of cook houses. Disposal of food refuse & slops. Means of protection of food from rats, flies, dust etc. Availability of fatigue parties for sanitary work. Material required for sanitary works in hand. Remarks on sanitary work & requirements, & difficulties arising with regard to sanitary progress Block plan of village, camp or area marking all permanent sanitary works, water supplies etc. & the sites of proposed sanitary works. 		

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Army Form 100
1951

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VIGNACOURT.			1.1.17. Inspected NAOURS. district & found considerable sanitary progress made.	
do.	2.1.17.		Reported ^{to DMS through ADM's} on water supplies at VIGNACOURT. where Typhoid fever is endemic & constitutes a danger to the troops billeted there unless the use of the water is strictly restricted. by certain rules laid down in a special memorandum sent out to C.O's Units billeted in the town.	
do	3.1.17.		Material for sanitary works now coming well to hand from C.E. 1st Anzac. a good progress being made in erection of permanent sanitary works	
do	3.1.17.		Reported to Headquarters certain very insanitary conditions existing in billets evacuated yesterday by units of 13th Inf. Bde. Action taken.	
do	3.1.17.		Reported on billeting accommodation at FLESSELLES. ST VAAST. & LA CHAUSÉE where there is a distinct tendency to overcrowding in billets.	
do	4.1.17.		5th Australian Division marching in to "T" Area. discussed sanitary matters of the area with A.D.M.S. 5th Division Cpl. KELLETT. on leave to England. arranged matters for the purchase of bricks locally in "T" Area.	
do	5.1.17.		A.D.M.S. 1st ANZAC. Col BUTLER. paid visit to VIGNACOURT re sanitary matters. arranged with him to send an N.C.O & 4 men of the sanitary section to MEAULTE. 1st Anzac C.E. Workshops to make latrines for the section.	JPH

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VIGNACOURT.	5.1.17.		Inspected NAOURS. HAVERNAS. WARGNIES. Improvement in sanitation is being maintained.	
do.	6.1.17.		Routine work.	
	7.1.17. (Sunday)		<p>Called in all men of the section to a full parade at 11 a.m. & gave a lecture on the methods to pursue in getting insanitary conditions remedied by the units in billets, & on the proper method of making sanitary reports. & preparing block plans of villages, camps etc.</p> <p>The following procedure to be taken in every case where insanitary conditions occur in billets.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Men at fault to be warned to remedy the condition in a given number of hours 2. If they fail to comply the sanitary supervisor to report to the C.O. of the unit to which the men belong & ask that necessary steps be taken. 3. If this fails to have desired effect, the sanitary supervisor to report all circumstances to O.C. sanitary section <p>Pte WEBB. returned from leave to England.</p> <p>Outlined a new system of office control & filing of papers to Pte WEBB. who is office clerk.</p>	
	8.1.17.		<p>Visit of inspection to FLESSELLES. RAINEVILLE. COISY. CARDONETTE. ST SAUVEUR & ST VAAST.</p> <p>At RAINEVILLE. the Field Engineers are building very satisfactory benches in the billets, leaving three</p>	<p>4/4/17</p>

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VIGNACOURT.			leaving 3 feet clear space between tiers of bunks, which gives good air-way. Bunks are made of timber with a mattress of small meshed wire netting. width 2'6" per man.	
do.	9.11.17		Sanitary conditions much improved in RAINEVILLE & ST VAAST. Good type of brick incinerator built in ST VAAST. Furnished report to Area Commandant at VIGNACOURT. Major EVANS re sanitary matters in his area.	
			sent. Ptes NEAL. LAIDLAW. POLLARD. GUTHRIE & HAYES to C.E Workshops MEAULTE to do carpentering work for the section.	
			Motor lorry sent to 1st Australian D.S.C. for overhaul.	
			Paid visit of inspection to HAVERNAG. WARLNIES. NAOURS. FLESSELLES RAINEVILLE. CARDONETTE. & ST VAAST. & paid men of the section saw the C.O.'s of various units belleted in these villages & arranged for necessary daily fatigue parties for carrying out clearing of villages & other sanitary work.	
	10.1.17.		Arranged with C.R.E. Back areas, to instal water storage tanks at FRIMONT for the use of troops.	
	11.1.17.		Report called for & furnished on sanitary conditions at CARDONETTE. Arranged with Area Commandant (Major Evans) for supply of timber to roof & screen all incomplete latrines in 'T' area.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VIGNACOURT	12.1.17.		Received instructions through ADMS 5 th Aust Division to move out of "T" area with the section & to rejoin 1 st Australian Division.	
			sent out orders to section to complete all work in hand but not to start any fresh sanitary works.	
	13.1.17.		Paid visit to 1 st Aust. Div ⁿ School of Instruction TIRAN COURT. CHATEAU.	
			for purpose of taking prophylactic measures against spread of Cerebro-spinal meningitis, a fatal case having occurred there. Disinfected room, bedding etc w. formalin, examined contacts, gave directions as regards isolation precautions & nasal douching.	
			Received instructions from ADMS 1 st Division to move section to WARLOY on 15.1.17.	
	14.1.17		& to hand over sanitary works to Area Commandant VIGNACOURT.	
			all personnel of sanitary section recalled from various stations in "T" area	
			& paraded at VIGNACOURT at 5 p.m. Full parade.	
			test made of all sanitary works erected in "T" area, together with block plan of each village showing location of these works. Report made to Area	
			Commandant Major EVANS enclosing lists & maps. (Plans). Sanitary works to be placed under control of village wardens under Area Commandant	
	15.1.17.		Handed over surplus material to Area Commandant.	
			Moved out of VIGNACOURT at 11 A.M. with section. Arrived WARLOY. 1.30 p.m.	
WARLOY	16.1.17.		Left s/sgt CARLOS with 4 men in VIGNACOURT to bring forward certain stores belonging to the Unit to WARLOY. During afternoon inspected WARLOY.	
			started work in "A" area with WARLOY as Headquarters. Inspected the the	

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WARLOY	16.1.17.		Inspected the villages of "A" area with Major Nicholas DADMS. 1st Aust Div. Villages are WARLOY. BRESLE. BASIEUX. CONTAY. pt Division troops billeted in these villages. Also 3 battalions under canvas.	
	17.1.17		Paradeled out sanitary section to the different villages with instructions as to the work to be done arranged personally with Town Major at CONTAY for rationing & billeting the men there; & with O.C. 3rd Aust. Inf. Bde for the men of the section at BRESLE. Arranged also with Town Major at these villages for supply of material, timber,essian etc to carry on work. Work required mainly building & roofing latrines, building incinerators, & paving approaches to incinerators & latrines. Also general cleansing of villages.	
	18.1.17.		Divided WARLOY into 4 sections & placed a man in charge of each section for sanitation purposes. Arranged with Town Major for fatigue parties & for material for necessary works. Paid the men of the Section.	
	19.1.17.		Pte HARVEY, transferred from the 57th Inf Bn. reported to me this evening & was placed on the strength of the Section. Inspected. BASIEUX. BRESLE & WARLOY. Good progress at BRESLE & WARLOY but work not started at BASIEUX owing to lack of material. The excessively bad sanitation of french village communities prevents the attainment of anything like good sanitary conditions in any village but as far as the troops are concerned billets are in good sanitary condition.	

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Army Form 1010

957

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WARLOY.	20.1.17.		pts NEAL. LAIDLAW. POLLARD. GUTHRIE & HAYES reported back from CE Workshops MEAULTE, having been recalled by me for urgent sanitary work.	
	21.1.17.		pte GUTHRIE reported sick. Light duty. pte BEATTIE reported sick. Sent to 3 rd F. Amb. WARLOY.	
	22.1.17.		Received instructions from ADMS 1 st Aust Div ⁿ to confer with C.O. 1 st Imperial Divisional Sanitary section at ALBERT re taking over forward area from him on 23.1.17. Complied. & returned to WARLOY 8 p.m.	
	23.1.17.		Called in personnel of Sanitary section & paraded them at WARLOY at 8 p.m. Full parade except pte BEATTIE (sick) & Cpl KELLET (on leave) made tour of WARLOY with Town Mayor & pointed out sanitary works installed. At parade gave directions for moving out of WARLOY tomorrow morning. Party to move out at 10 a.m. & march to Red Cottage FRICOURT. Remainder to travel per motor lorry moving out of WARLOY at 2 p.m.	
FRICOURT	24.1.17.		moved out of WARLOY as arranged. Marched in to Red Cottage FRICOURT at 4 p.m. Section paraded. all correct. Have receipt for material handed over to 2 nd sanitary section by C.O. 1 st Imperial Divisional sanitary section.	
	25.1.17.		Inspection of 1 st Australian Divisional forward area by myself & sectional squads to ascertain work requiring attention	
	26.1.17.		Placed pte COATES in charge of water supplies with instructions to test water at water points for the degree of chlorination required &	

AL WALKER
out on leave
to England.

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Army Form 2118/12
1917

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FRICOURT.	26	1.17.	to take samples from water cante, lavies, petrol tins etc in camps to ensure that chlorination was being regularly carried out & to report any carelessness in this respect.	
			sent motor lorry to 1st Aust. Divisional S.C. for overhaul.	
	27	1.17.	Reports & personal inspection show forward area, as far as HIGH WOOD to be in fairly good sanitary order. as far as can be judged with snow lying deep everywhere. General sanitary work started by digging latrines & roofing & screening them. Pits require to be shored up with timber owing to torn up nature of the soil.	
	28	1.17. (Sunday)	plc DONOVAN. reported back from leave in England.	
	29	1.17.	Paid visit of inspection to area on right of 1st Aust. Divisional forward area to compare sanitary conditions & to ascertain any points of interest. Visited. MONTAUBAN. POMIERS. BAZENTIN-LE-GRAND. QUARRY. SIDING. BERNAFAY WOOD. TRONES WOOD. DELVILLE WOOD. LONGUEVAL & HIGH WOOD. Inspected water points, camps. & sanitary structures incinerators etc.	
	30	1.17.	Paid visit of inspection to FRIMONT "T" area in connection with the water supply there, on which a report was required by DDMS.	
	31	1.17.	Inspected FRICOURT FARM Camps. Inspected sites for latrines & incinerators. Furnished monthly sanitary report to A.D.M.S.	

J. P. Holmes
Div. San. Officer. Capt. 00

SANITARY SECTION, 1st AUSTRALIAN DIV.	
No.	4/17
Date.....	

O.C.

2nd Aust Sanitary Section.

Please arrange that a first and immediate duty in the administration of the area, (Sanitary) for which you are responsible is to prepare as quickly as possible a report of the sanitary works within the area.

The report should be systematic, covering all the camping and billeting centres and should be made exact by map references or plan.

The most important details required are

1. Latrines, noting number of seats and whether pit or pan, and nature of disposal.

2. Incinerators, with special reference to their efficiency and state of repair and who is responsible for attending to them.

3. Baths and Ablution places.
The report should be brief but explicit and should for each billeting or camping centre give sufficient comment on the sanitary arrangements, and construction to enable the judgement to be formed as to the necessity for

(over)

for special investigation of that particular centre.

Proposals for improvement or further construction should be given.

Report should be furnished to the D. D. M. S. through the A. D. M. S. administering the sanitary area concerned.

In the case of the Sanitary Section at Montauban the report will be furnished through the A. D. M. S. the division stationed at Bernafray.

The report should be sent in duplicate to enable it to be sent to H^q Army.

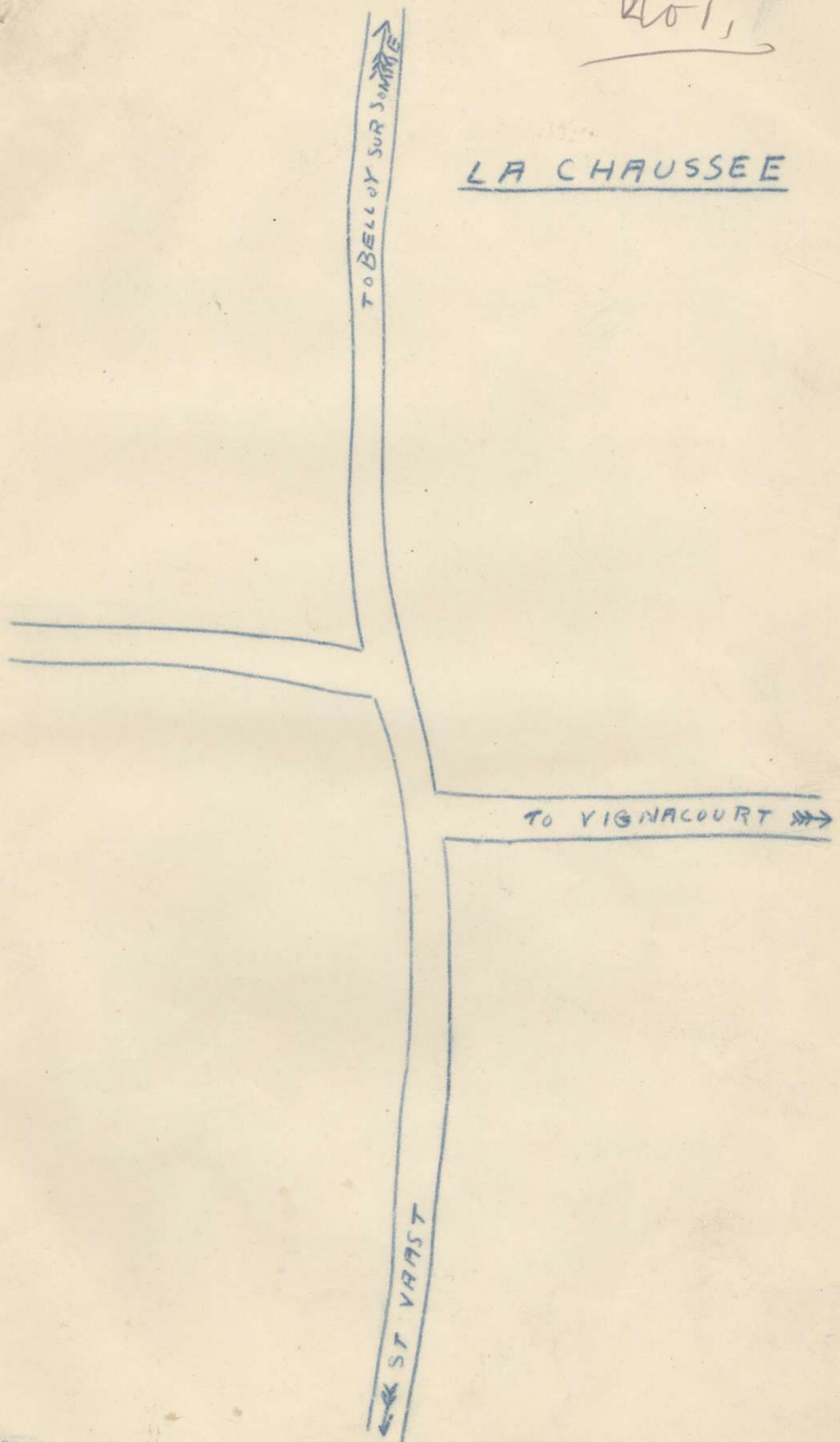
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APPENDIX

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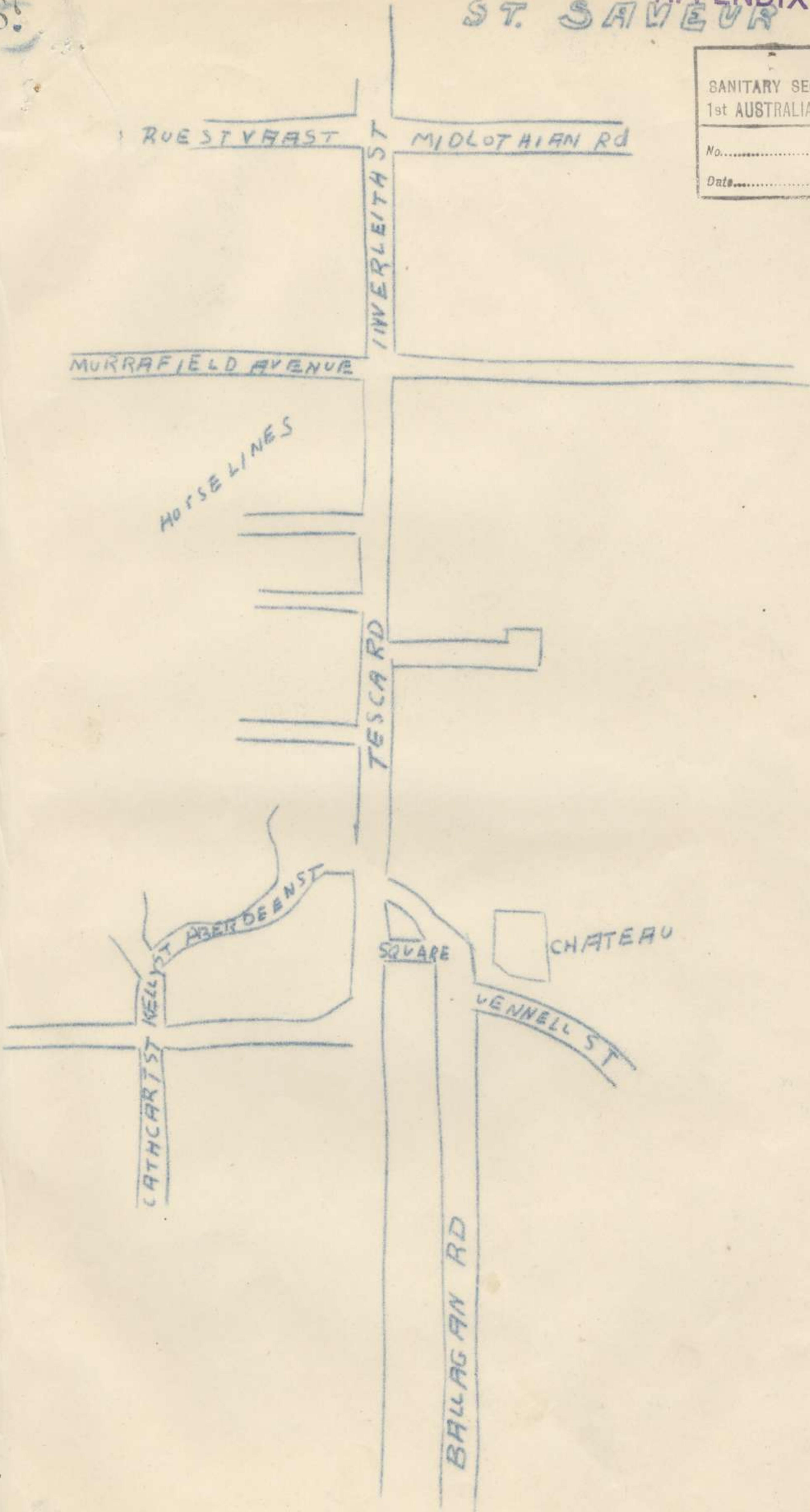
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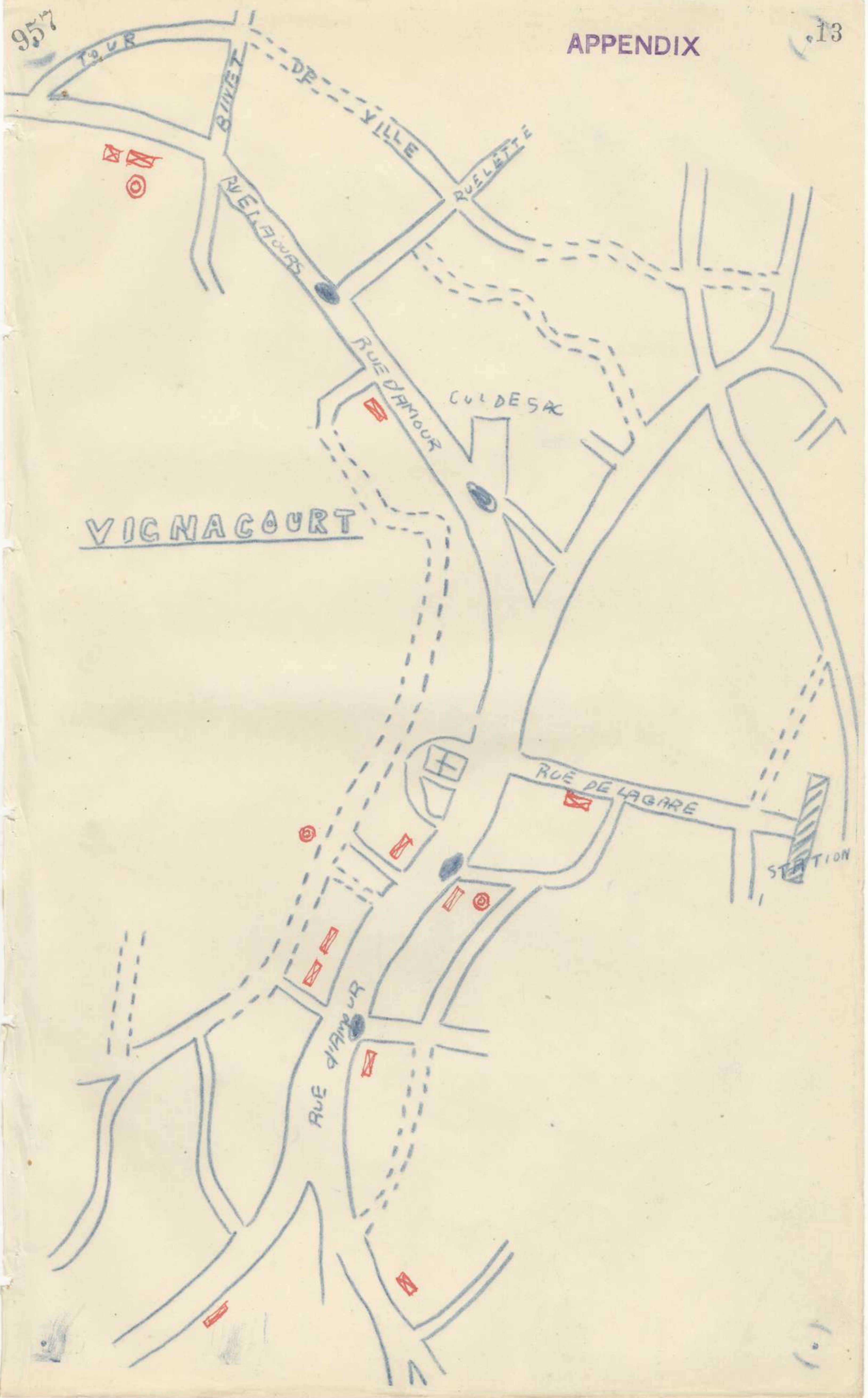
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1st AUSTRALIAN DIV.

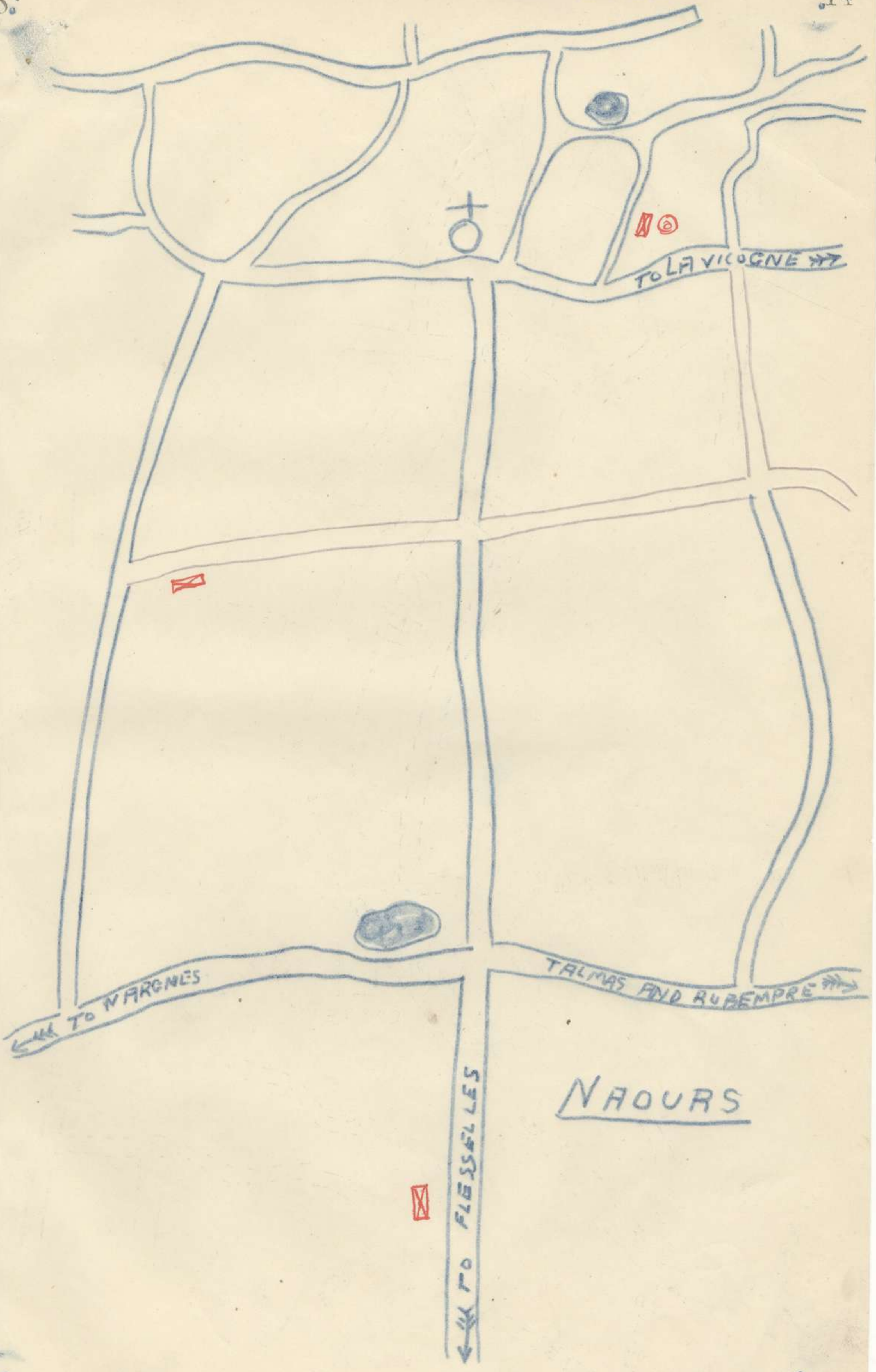
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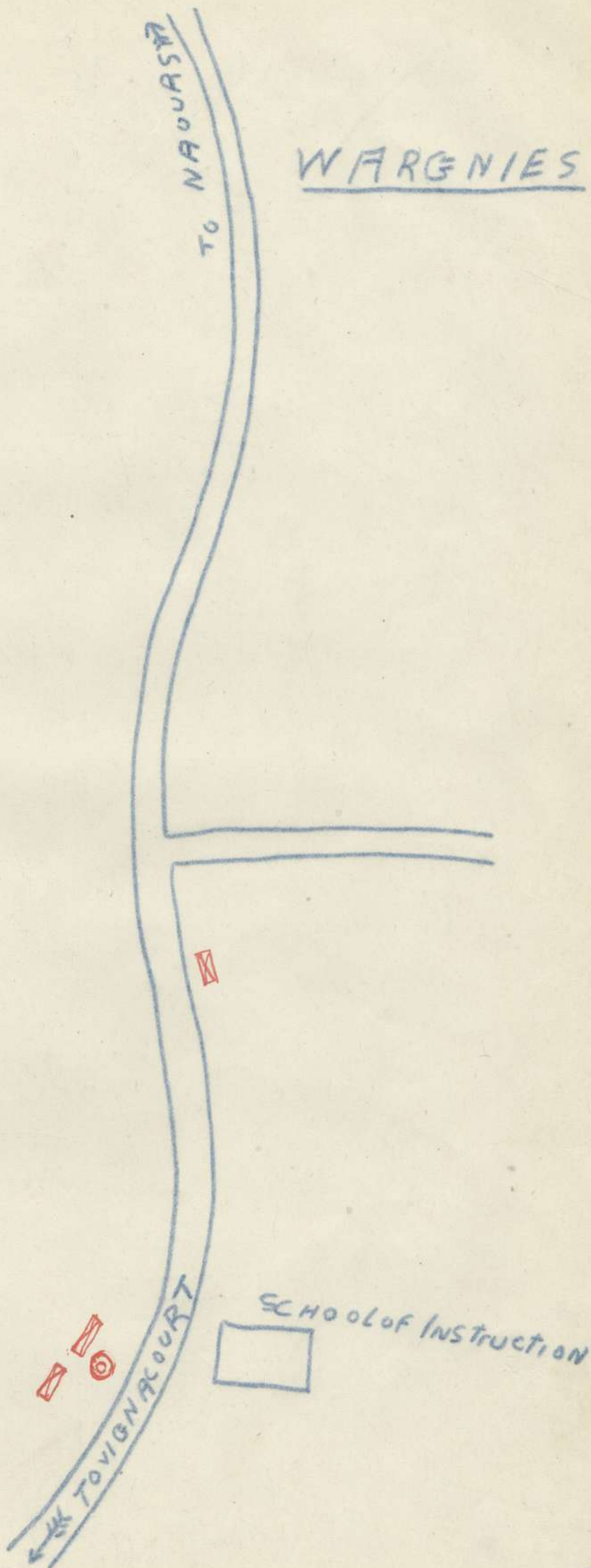
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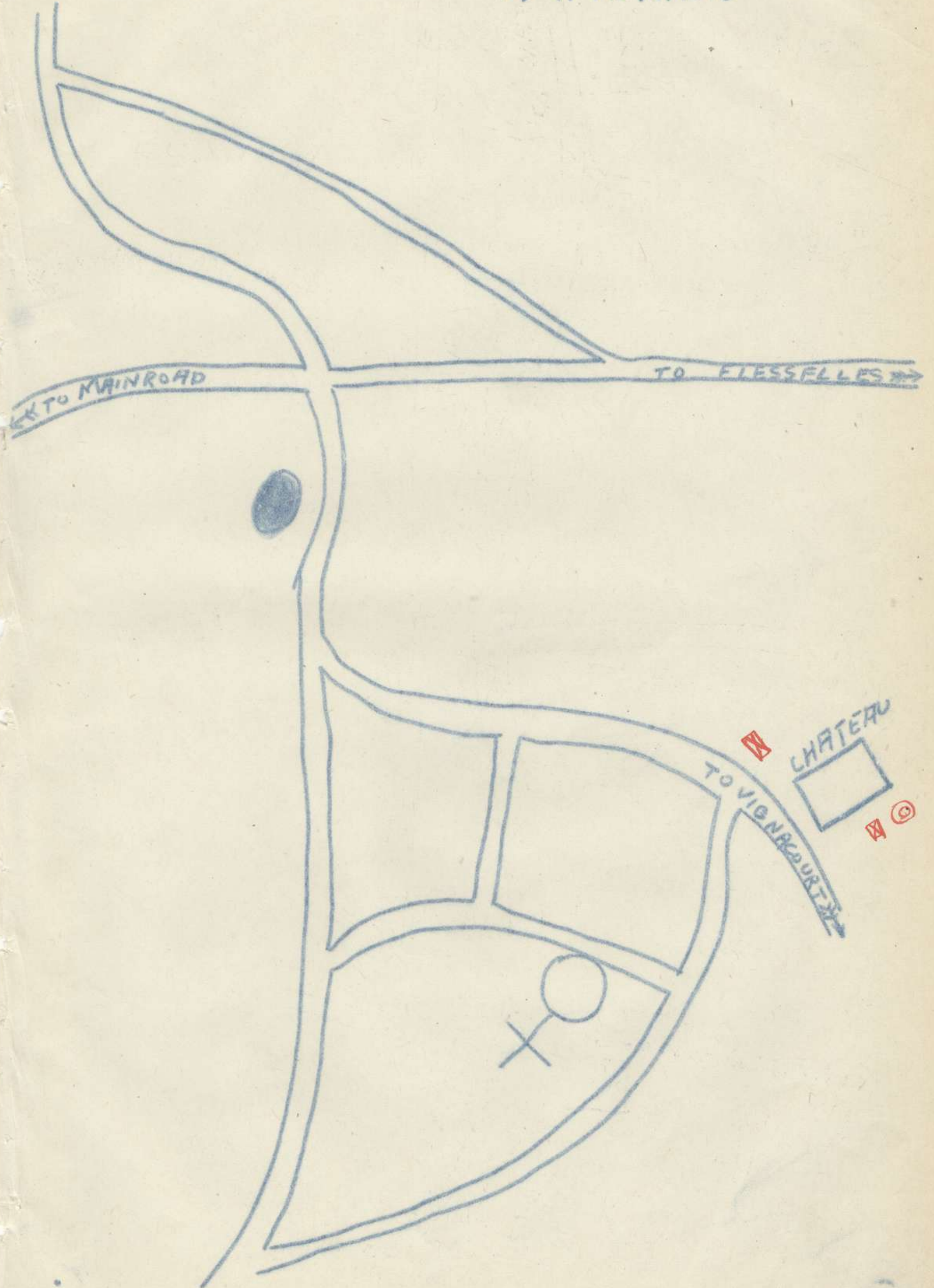
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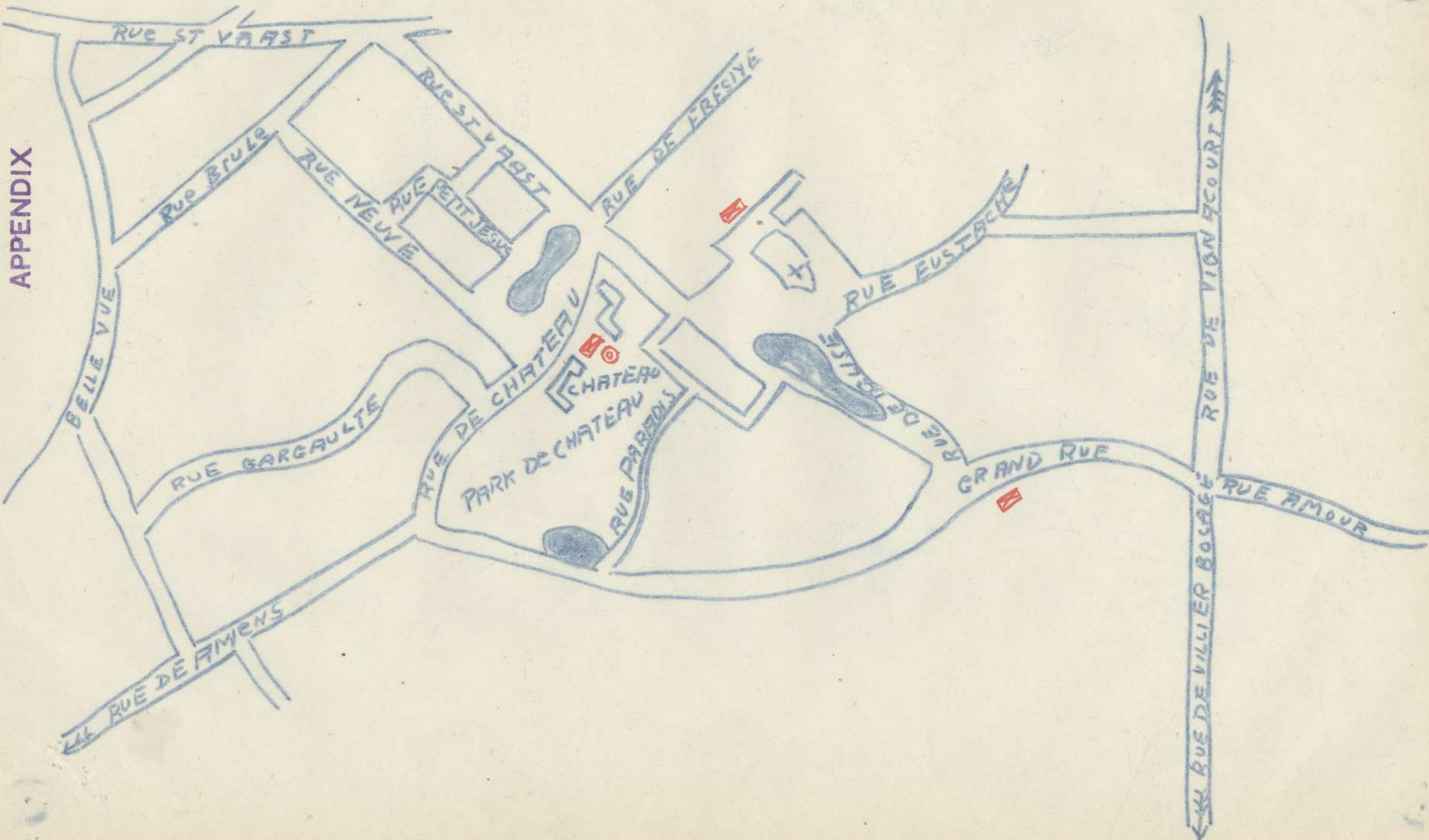


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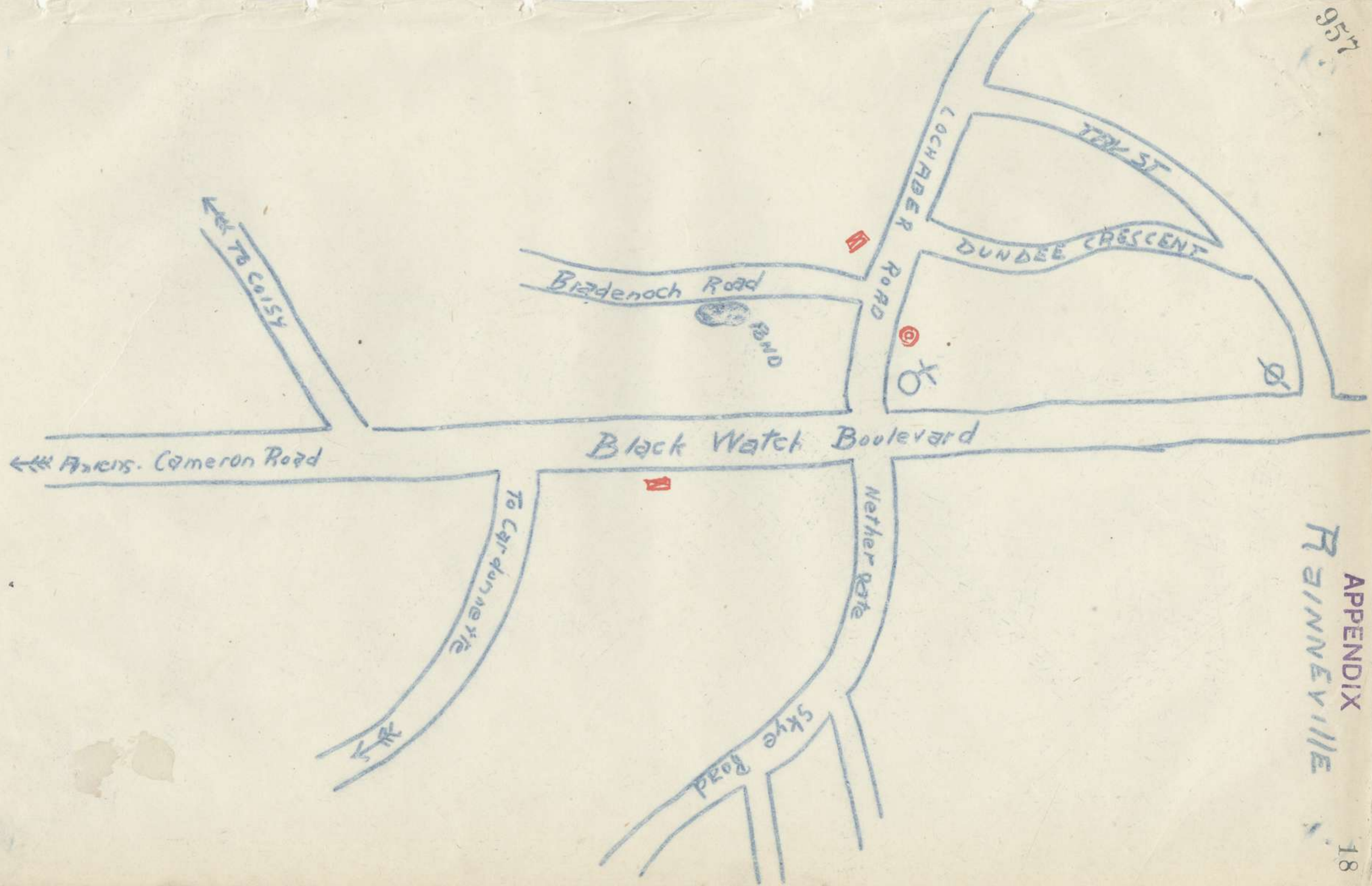
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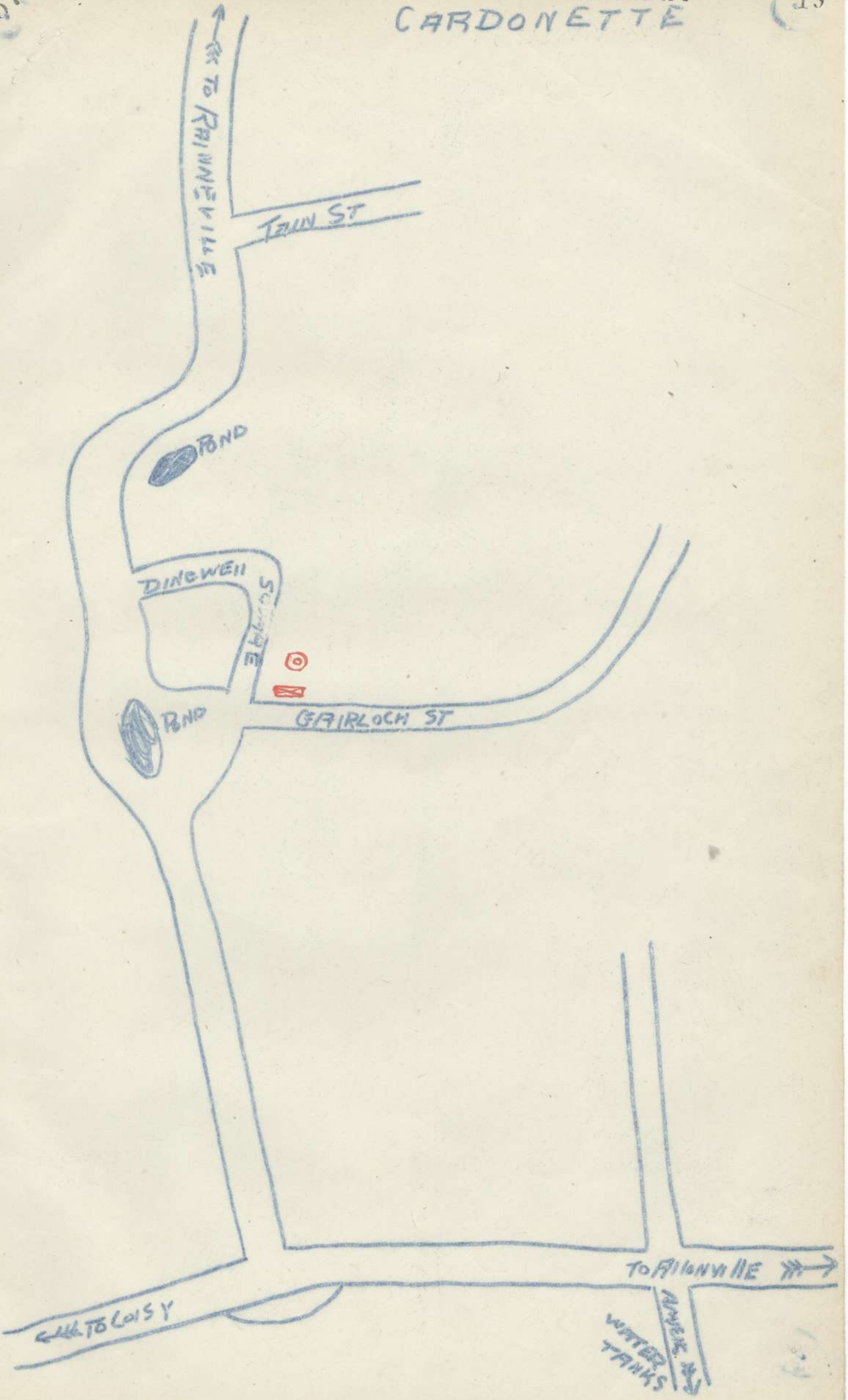
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APPENDIX
RAINNEVILLE

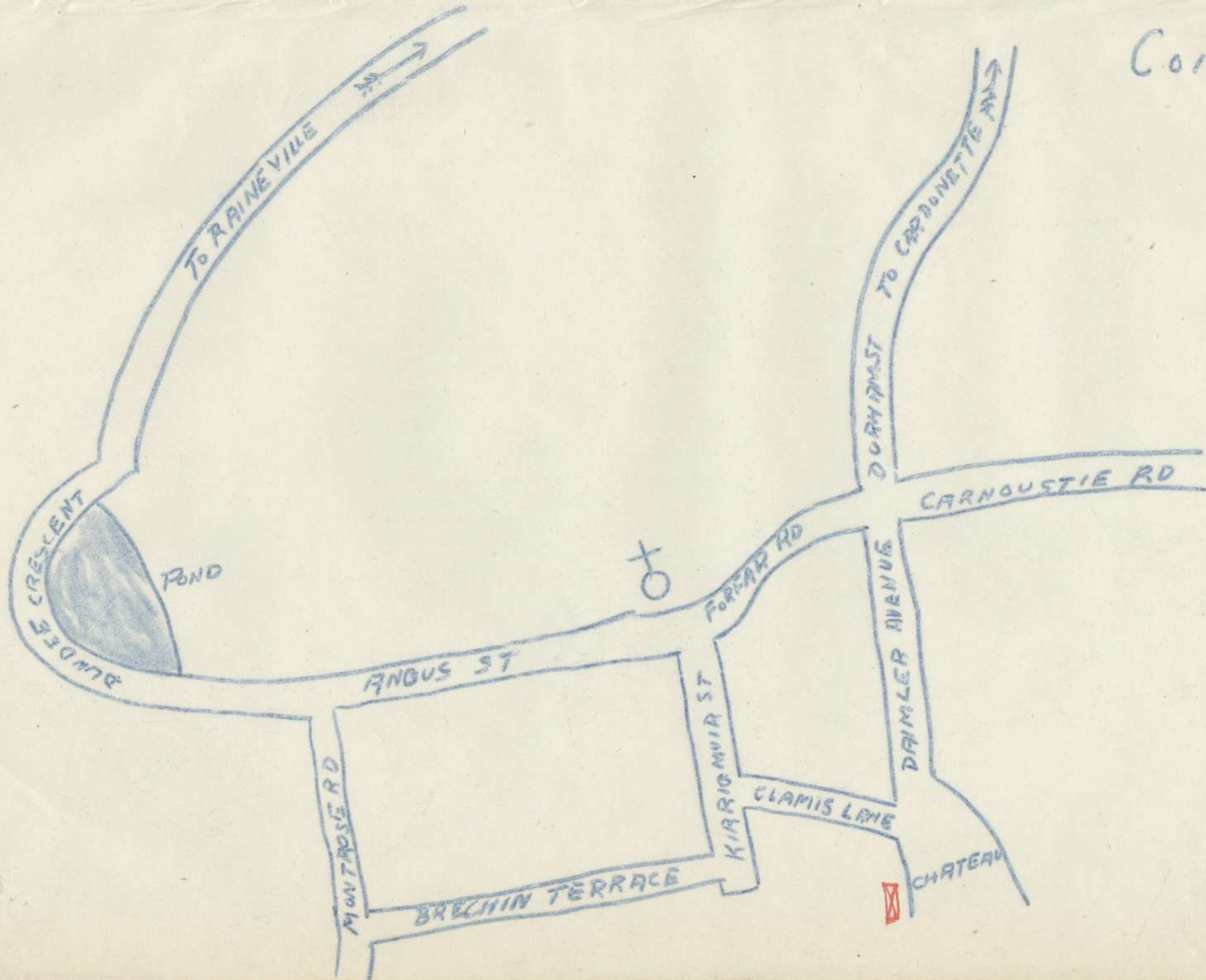
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